



MI-CW2909

Michigan Crop Weather

July 20, 2009

Continued Cool

Six days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending July 19, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation varied from 0.10 inches in the northwest Lower Peninsula to 0.60 inches in the eastern Upper Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 5 degrees below normal in the eastern Upper Peninsula to 8 degrees below normal in the central, east central, south west Lower Peninsula and western Upper Peninsula. Cool weather this week has not helped crop growth. Moisture and heat is needed to help crops grow. Crop growth still looks a couple of weeks behind schedule due to weather conditions. Alfalfa is slow growing due to dry weather. One grower reported, “Crops generally look good, despite the cool, dry growing conditions. Some moisture and warmer temperatures are needed. Producers progressing on dry hay making, despite the poor drying conditions.”

Field Crops

Cool temperatures continued, resulting in crop progress remaining behind normal. A reporter in the southeast stated, “It looks more like mid-June around here than mid-July.” Many reporters stated that the crop was at least two weeks behind normal and would benefit from heat and moisture. **Wheat** harvest was underway and is expected to be in full swing next week. **Oats**, in the central, were slow to turn. **Corn** and **soybeans** remained behind schedule. Corn was attempting to tassel in many areas of the State. Soybeans were slowly growing. Re-growth of **alfalfa** was slow. Many of the harvested acres, last week, were for haylage due to moisture levels. A reporter in the northeast stated, “Hay harvest was challenging with the constant threat of rain.” **Sugarbeets** and **dry beans** continued to progress.

Fruit

Apples were 36 mm in the northwest and 2 inches in the southeast; growers were hand thinning. Fire blight symptoms continued to increase. **Apricot** harvest was completed in the southwest. Hand picking of **blueberries** for fresh market and machine picking for processing were underway in the southwest; fruit size and quality were excellent. **Peaches** were 2 inches in diameter; harvest on sandy soils was underway in the southwest. **Pears** were 26 mm in the northwest and 1.75 inches in diameter in the southeast. Some harvest of Japanese **plums** was underway in the southwest. **Raspberry** harvest of summer red and black berries was in full swing; fall raspberries began to flower in the southeast. **Strawberry** harvest was completed in the northwest; renovation was completed in the southwest, where growers applied residual herbicides and fertilizers. **Sweet cherry** harvest wrapped up in southern Michigan, while harvest for the stem-on market was underway in the northwest. **Tart cherry** harvest began in the west central and was completed in the southwest except on heavier soils, where harvest neared completion. Cherry fruit fly activity was high and leaf spot infections were a concern; post harvest applications were recommended for growers to reduce fruit fly populations and leaf spot infections next season. **Grapes** were at berry touch in the northwest.

Vegetables

Growers across the State were harvesting a variety of vegetables including **cabbage**, **red beets**, **radishes**, **peas**, **lettuce**, **broccoli**, **zucchini**, and **greens**. **Sweet corn** development continued to be slow due to cooler temperatures; growers in most areas did not expect to begin harvest until the end of July or the first week of August. Downy mildew was confirmed in **cucumber** fields in three Michigan counties; all growers were advised to spray for downy mildew and monitor other vine crops. In the Grand Rapids area, **melons** were developing fruit and appeared to be growing well. Hard **squash** was in flower or fruiting. Early-planted **onions** had bulbs around two inches in diameter, while **leeks** attained a size of nearly one inch. **Tomatoes** and **peppers** were fruiting; growers are monitoring tomato fields for early blight and Septoria leaf spot. **Celery** transplanting was nearly complete, and the first harvest was underway. Growers reported that some of the more mature celery crop was killed or harmed by earlier field flooding, but that pest infestations were fairly light. In Oceana county, **carrot** growers monitored fields for disease and pests. In **asparagus**, new fern growth was developing slowly in the cool weather. In the southeast, “new” **potato** harvest for the retail market was underway. In the East Central region, wholesale **snap bean** harvest began, while in the West Central region, green beans were flowering.

Soil moisture for week ending 07/19/09

| Stratum | Very short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|---------|------------|---------|----------|---------|
| | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent |
| Topsoil | 12 | 42 | 45 | 1 |
| Subsoil | 6 | 35 | 58 | 1 |

Crop condition for week ending 07/19/09

| Crop | Very poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|--------------|-----------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|
| | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent |
| All Hay | 2 | 9 | 29 | 50 | 10 |
| Corn | 2 | 9 | 26 | 54 | 9 |
| Dry beans | 5 | 13 | 46 | 31 | 5 |
| Oats | 1 | 3 | 27 | 64 | 5 |
| Pasture | 7 | 11 | 35 | 39 | 8 |
| Soybeans | 3 | 7 | 32 | 49 | 9 |
| Winter Wheat | 1 | 4 | 21 | 58 | 16 |

Crop progress for week ending 07/19/09

| Crop | This week | Last week | Last year | 5-year average |
|------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| | Inches | Inches | Inches | Inches |
| Corn, height | 46 | 38 | 54 | 55 |
| | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent |
| All hay, second cutting | 54 | 28 | 47 | 51 |
| Blueberries, harvested | 74 | 23 | 25 | 21 |
| Corn, silked | 5 | 1 | 24 | 34 |
| Dry beans, blooming | 7 | 1 | 9 | 19 |
| Oats, headed | 93 | 87 | 99 | 98 |
| Oats, turning yellow | 42 | 25 | 52 | 60 |
| Soybeans, blooming | 27 | 16 | 59 | 54 |
| Strawberries, harvested | 91 | 88 | 94 | 99 |
| Tart cherries, harvested | 17 | 13 | 24 | 51 |
| Winter wheat, turning yellow | 97 | 87 | 100 | 100 |
| Winter wheat, harvested | 13 | 1 | 41 | 48 |

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 07/19/09 ¹

| Station | Temperature | | | Cumulative growing degree days ² | | | Precipitation | | | | | |
|----------------|-------------|---------|-----------------------|---|-------|--------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|-----------|
| | Maximum | Minimum | Departure from normal | 2009 | 2008 | Normal | This week | Last two weeks | Last four weeks | Since April 1 | Normal | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | Since April 1 | For month |
| Ironwood | 73 | 39 | | 868 | 908 | | 0.76 | 0.79 | 1.40 | 8.44 | | |
| Marquette | 81 | 43 | | 759 | 848 | | 0.76 | 0.79 | 1.40 | 8.45 | | |
| Stephenson | 85 | 40 | | 1,015 | 1,127 | | 0.10 | 0.14 | 0.37 | 9.02 | | |
| Western UP | 85 | 33 | -8 | 850 | 910 | 979 | 0.59 | 0.62 | 1.20 | 8.55 | 11.27 | 3.42 |
| Cornell | 77 | 44 | | 930 | 994 | | 0.63 | 0.65 | 0.93 | 7.47 | | |
| Sault St Marie | 75 | 43 | | 745 | 843 | | 0.69 | 0.78 | 2.00 | 8.32 | | |
| Eastern UP | 81 | 39 | -5 | 764 | 856 | 810 | 0.60 | 0.75 | 1.94 | 9.23 | 10.45 | 3.19 |
| Beulah | 81 | 48 | | 1,048 | 1,210 | | 0.00 | 0.16 | 1.29 | 9.78 | | |
| Lake City | 82 | 39 | | 1,006 | 1,157 | | 0.04 | 0.12 | 1.11 | 11.08 | | |
| Old Mission | 78 | 45 | | 953 | 1,136 | | 0.04 | 0.40 | 1.90 | 6.60 | | |
| Pellston | 78 | 37 | | 903 | 1,102 | | 0.27 | 0.36 | 1.39 | 5.71 | | |
| Northwest | 82 | 37 | -7 | 945 | 1,110 | 1,121 | 0.10 | 0.30 | 1.31 | 7.61 | 10.15 | 2.99 |
| Alpena | 81 | 42 | | 958 | 1,143 | | 0.31 | 0.39 | 1.72 | 9.64 | | |
| Houghton Lake | 79 | 36 | | 996 | 1,208 | | 0.09 | 0.24 | 0.72 | 9.85 | | |
| Rogers City | 78 | 48 | | 953 | 1,086 | | 0.16 | 0.94 | 1.65 | 9.70 | | |
| Northeast | 82 | 36 | -7 | 971 | 1,160 | 1,078 | 0.22 | 0.46 | 1.18 | 9.56 | 9.99 | 3.18 |
| Fremont | 79 | 46 | | 1,156 | 1,289 | | 0.36 | 0.82 | 1.05 | 9.68 | | |
| Hart | 81 | 44 | | 1,084 | 1,209 | | 0.10 | 0.23 | 0.76 | 12.38 | | |
| Muskegon | 79 | 49 | | 1,241 | 1,265 | | 0.60 | 0.82 | 1.12 | 10.26 | | |
| West Central | 85 | 42 | -7 | 1,145 | 1,242 | 1,239 | 0.32 | 0.54 | 1.06 | 11.08 | 10.32 | 2.54 |
| Alma | 81 | 47 | | 1,176 | 1,368 | | 0.09 | 0.29 | 0.76 | 13.65 | | |
| Big Rapids | 81 | 44 | | 1,148 | 1,329 | | 0.14 | 0.48 | 0.79 | 10.40 | | |
| Central | 81 | 44 | -8 | 1,153 | 1,336 | 1,300 | 0.16 | 0.47 | 0.85 | 11.15 | 11.09 | 2.97 |
| Bad Axe | 80 | 46 | | 1,051 | 1,318 | | 0.39 | 0.42 | 1.38 | 11.08 | | |
| Pigeon | 81 | 44 | | 1,051 | 1,282 | | 0.06 | 0.17 | 1.03 | 11.03 | | |
| Saginaw | 82 | 48 | | 1,185 | 1,425 | | 0.09 | 0.41 | 1.56 | 12.18 | | |
| Standish | 80 | 45 | | 1,067 | 1,248 | | 0.03 | 0.07 | 0.84 | 10.33 | | |
| East Central | 82 | 44 | -8 | 1,058 | 1,332 | 1,284 | 0.14 | 0.28 | 1.35 | 11.69 | 10.10 | 2.92 |
| Fennville | 81 | 48 | | 1,221 | 1,293 | | 0.63 | 1.17 | 1.60 | 13.73 | | |
| Grand Rapids | 82 | 50 | | 1,350 | 1,498 | | 0.85 | 2.20 | 3.45 | 16.45 | | |
| Holland | 84 | 52 | | 1,428 | 1,497 | | 0.82 | 1.26 | 1.56 | 20.86 | | |
| South Bend, IN | 86 | 49 | | 1,486 | 1,572 | | 0.48 | 0.95 | 1.05 | 13.20 | | |
| Watervliet | 83 | 49 | | 1,326 | 1,427 | | 0.55 | 0.88 | 1.08 | 12.23 | | |
| Southwest | 86 | 44 | -8 | 1,341 | 1,445 | 1,400 | 0.57 | 0.97 | 1.24 | 13.43 | 11.87 | 3.09 |
| Belding | 79 | 43 | | 1,160 | 1,328 | | 0.28 | 0.44 | 0.70 | 11.14 | | |
| Coldwater | 83 | 47 | | 1,393 | 1,429 | | 0.00 | 0.18 | 0.33 | 13.03 | | |
| Lansing | 82 | 47 | | 1,255 | 1,466 | | 0.01 | 0.41 | 0.72 | 15.56 | | |
| South Central | 84 | 43 | -8 | 1,254 | 1,426 | 1,393 | 0.24 | 0.80 | 1.10 | 13.72 | 11.61 | 3.22 |
| Detroit | 85 | 52 | | 1,440 | 1,608 | | 0.28 | 1.32 | 1.90 | 14.58 | | |
| Flint | 82 | 45 | | 1,237 | 1,517 | | 0.91 | 1.42 | 1.95 | 16.26 | | |
| Romeo | 82 | 49 | | 1,227 | 1,416 | | 0.16 | 0.36 | 3.54 | 10.56 | | |
| Tipton | 82 | 48 | | 1,322 | 1,447 | | 0.06 | 0.54 | 0.69 | 12.46 | | |
| Toledo, OH | 86 | 51 | | 1,478 | 1,587 | | 0.16 | 0.42 | 0.72 | 11.94 | | |
| Southeast | 86 | 43 | -7 | 1,315 | 1,491 | 1,364 | 0.28 | 0.58 | 1.22 | 12.13 | 11.38 | 3.11 |

¹Issued by the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University's Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

²Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.

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